



# 2013 Annual Report



Asian/Pacific Islander  
Domestic Violence  
Resource Project



"Through my experience on the Board, I realized that DVRP was an organization that will always advocate and put the survivors that they serve first."

-DVRP Board Member  
From [greatnonprofits.org](http://greatnonprofits.org)



"DVRP provided me with emotional support and a mobile free of charge. DVRP consulted me on safety options specific to my conditions and it understood my cultural background."

-Survivor



"DVRP is as resilient as the people it helps: survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault."

-DVRP Board Member  
From [greatnonprofits.org](http://greatnonprofits.org)





## MISSION STATEMENT

The Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project (DVRP) is a non-profit organization in Washington, D.C. Our mission is to address, prevent, and end domestic violence and sexual assault in Asian/Pacific Islander (A/PI) communities while empowering survivors to rebuild their lives after abuse.

## HISTORY

In 1995, a group of Asian/Pacific Islander women came together to discuss the issues of violence against women in their community. These women, the Founders of DVRP, surveyed area service providers and found that over 500 abused A/PI women were unable to access culturally and linguistically appropriate services. This lack of services prevented survivors from accessing the critical resources they needed to lead healthy and safer lives.

Today, DVRP's programs and structure is survivor-created and survivor-driven. DVRP has served 650 survivors in Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Virginia, empowered community leaders to speak out against violence and provided trainings to various audiences on cultural competency and domestic violence awareness.

## A Message from the Executive Director & Board President

Dear Supporters,

We are thrilled to report many positive developments in the Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project's (DVRP) 2013 Annual Report! From creating a new website that has information on our survivor support services translated into several different Asian languages, to changing the structure of DVRP's Survivor Services Program, and growing DVRP's staff to improve our case management services and expanding our outreach, DVRP has achieved a lot in just one year.

In 2013, we were so grateful to be recognized for our tremendous work and achievements by being awarded the Community Service Award from the Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) during Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May. The Honorable Mayor Vincent Gray presented us with the award along with the Executive Director of OAPIA, Julie Koo. Moreover, in order to increase our presence in the community, we've organized several successful events through the year. Among these was our Moving Forward Reception, which was an informational event in April for anyone interested in learning about DVRP. In May, we held the Faces of Courage Photo Exhibition, which featured a collection by Japanese photographer Nobuko Oyabu, a photojournalist, who highlighted the courage and resiliency of survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Then in October, to commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month, our sold out Gala, "Beyond the Silence," had over 120 guests, including advocates, board members, staff, volunteers, clients, community leaders and supporters. DVRP honored the Cherry Blossom Giving Circle and Karma Cottman, the Executive Director of the DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence with the Lotus Award and Josh Woodard, a former DVRP Board member with the Ally Award. This year, we also launched a Photo Voices Against Violence Campaign through sharing photographs of community members with messages against violence.

Finally, we developed an Advisory Council that is comprised of leaders in our community who provide advice and support of DVRP through their knowledge and experiences in working with survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in immigrant communities, fundraising, organizational development and capacity building.

2013 was a busy, but successful year for DVRP! We would not have been able to pull off these successes without the support and recognition of our community. It is our community that enabled us to not only survive, but to thrive. We have much to celebrate from 2013 and much more to look forward to in 2014!

We are so thankful for your support.

Sincerely,



Jessica Li  
Executive Director/ Chief Executive Officer



Shiwali Patel  
Board President



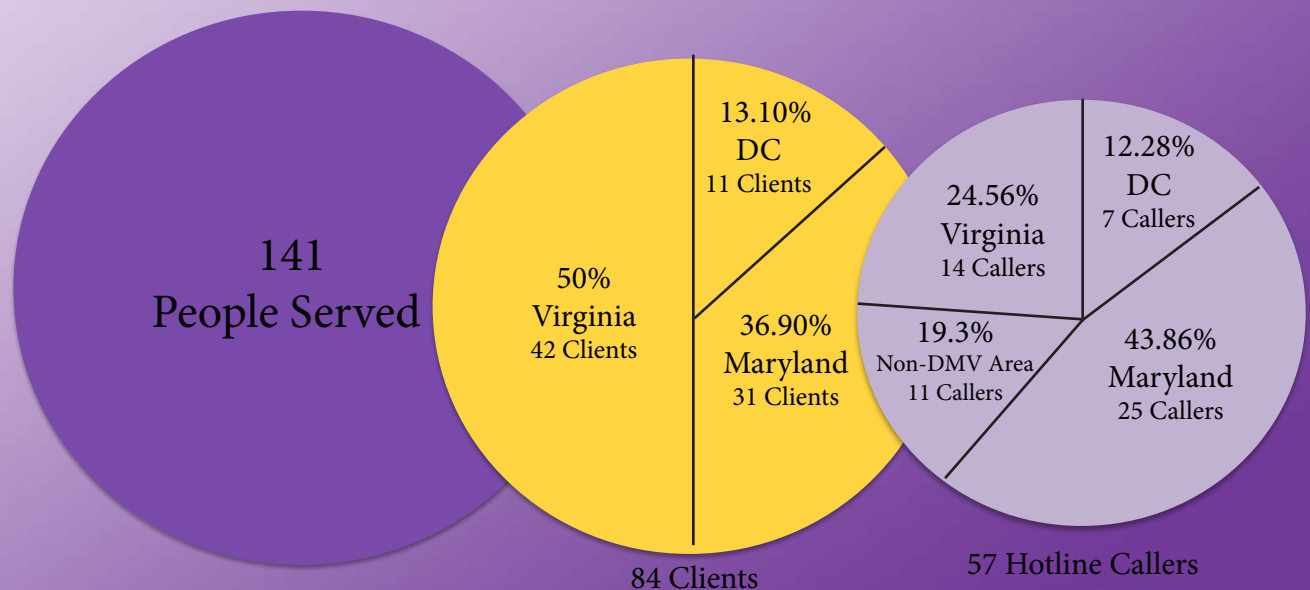


## SURVIVOR SERVICES PROGRAM

Ensuring culturally and linguistically appropriate services lies at the heart of DVRP's Survivor Services Program. DVRP's bilingual staff and advocates provide direct services in over 20 Asian/Pacific Islander languages, including: Arabic, Balochi, Bengali, Cantonese, Farsi, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Mongolian, Nepali, Panpango, Punjabi, Sinhalese, Tagalog, Telugu, Thai, Toishanese, Urdu and Vietnamese.

Specific services include: peer support, safety planning, crisis intervention, emergency transportation, court accompaniment, interpretation and translation, financial empowerment, life skills development and referrals for shelter, legal, and social services. DVRP utilizes an empowerment model of advocacy, enabling survivors to have the necessary information and resources to make their own life decisions.

### Key Accomplishments in 2013



- 141 people served
- 84 clients
- 57 survivors and individuals indirectly impacted by domestic violence assisted via the hotline
- Ethnic background of people served included: Afghani; Bangladeshi; Chinese; Filipino; Indian; Iranian; Iraqi; Japanese; Korean; Mongolian; Pakistani; Sri Lankan; Tibetan; Thai; Trinidadian and Vietnamese

Several years ago, Satu, a Japanese national, frantically began calling numerous agencies looking for help due to her husband's extensive verbal abuse. Finally, after many frustrating failed attempts Satu found DVRP. After years of marriage she concluded that she could no longer continue living in such a toxic environment that was detrimental to both her and her young child. DVRP immediately began providing resources and information in Japanese to assist Satu as she looked for an attorney and began divorce proceedings. Like many abusers, Satu's husband sought to shame, humiliate and isolate her within their community by spreading lies and malicious rumors about her. Consequently, Satu often felt alone and misunderstood. During those bleak times she always sought and received comfort and support from DVRP.

Satu's case became even more traumatic when she was diagnosed with an illness that threatened her life. Despite it all, Satu continued to fight for her well-being and the best interests of her child. DVRP has linked Satu to counseling services and legal representation. After more than two years, Satu's divorce was finalized in 2013. Now, she has custody of her child and financial support to cover their basic needs. Her health has improved somewhat, but she still has a long way to go towards a full recovery. DVRP has supported and empowered Satu throughout every aspect of her tumultuous journey and it will continue to do so as she faces 2014 with a renewed sense of hope.

## SATU'S STORY

\*The name of the survivor has been changed to protect her identity.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM



Ending domestic violence and sexual assault requires education, commitment, training, and collaboration. Domestic violence itself is not a widely spoken issue and is often considered a “private family matter”.

DVRP uses a diverse array of tools to further this awareness including the arts, ethnic media ads, translated brochures, survivor stories, and working directly with A/PI community organizations.

### Key Accomplishments in 2013

- Over 3,000 community members were informed about the dynamics of domestic violence in A/PI communities through the distribution of informational materials
- Organized community events such as a film screening at George Mason University to raise awareness about violence against women
- Established partnerships with A/PI domestic violence and sexual assault organizations in major U.S. cities and well as overseas.

## TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

DVRP was founded to ensure that abused A/PI survivors reaching out for assistance would have access to culturally and linguistically appropriate services. To accomplish this objective, DVRP trains community leaders to recognize signs of domestic violence and provides them with the appropriate tools to respond effectively to the needs of survivors.



### Key Accomplishments in 2013

- 19 domestic violence and cultural competency trainings were facilitated for A/PI community based organizations and domestic violence service providers in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C.
- Oriented 23 new Bilingual Advocates to work with survivors of domestic violence
- Collaborated on case management with legal and/or transitional housing programs to ensure survivors received holistic services

# BOARD AND STAFF



## Board of Directors

### Officers

Shiwali Patel, President  
Lakshmi Shridaran, Vice President  
Priya Purandare, Secretary  
Claire Cui, Treasurer

### Board Members

Alex Wu  
Arpitha Peteru  
Caryn Sweeney  
Sham Manglik  
Mridula Shrestha  
Anjali Garg

## Staff

### Jessica Li

Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer

### Fiona Oliphant

Survivor Services Program Manager

### Haruka

Survivor Services Case Manager  
Japanese Language

### Kaylie

Survivor Services Case Manager  
Vietnamese Language

### Aaisha

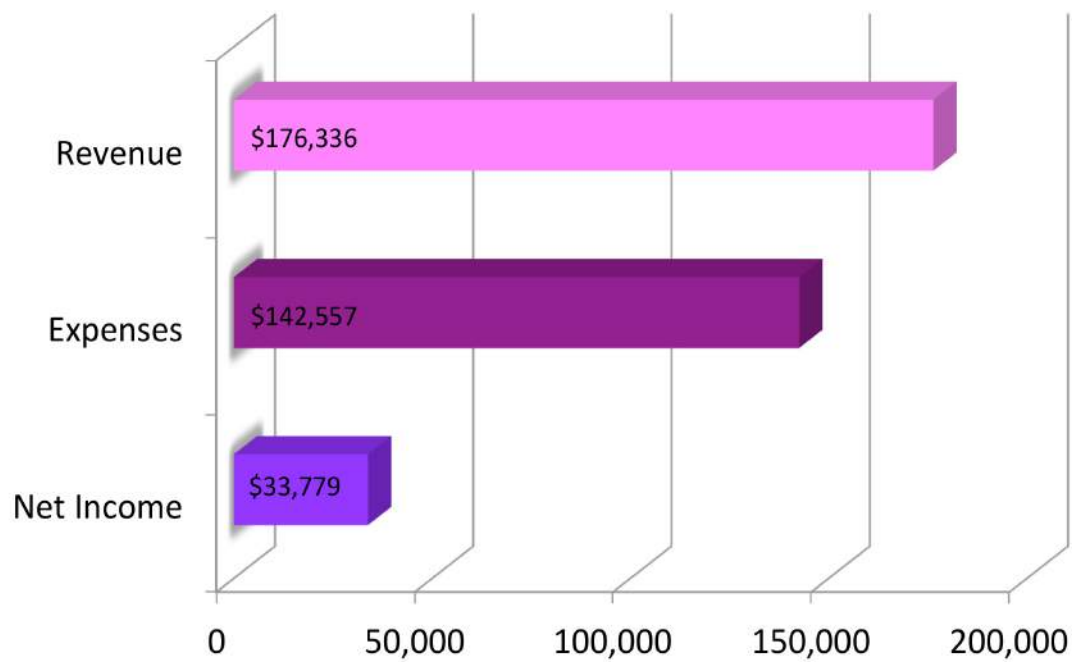
Survivor Services Case Manager  
Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi, Hindku, & Seraiki Languages

### Nancy Xiong

Outreach and Training Coordinator



## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES



## 2013 Awards and Recognitions



DC Mayor's Community Service Award Recipient



Recognized as a Top-Rated Non-Profit in 2013



Asian/Pacific Islander  
Domestic Violence Resource Project

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APIDVRP



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